

The Three Branches of Government

Executive Branch

The head of the executive branch is the President. The Vice President and the heads of government departments give advice to the President.

- proposes, approves, and enforces laws made by Congress
- makes treaties with other countries
- leads the military

Legislative Branch

The legislative branch is called Congress. Congress has two parts: the Senate and the House of Representatives.

- makes laws
- raises money by collecting taxes or borrowing money
- approves the printing of money
- can declare war

Judicial Branch

The Supreme Court and other courts make up the judicial branch. One Chief Justice and eight Associate Justices serve on the Supreme Court.

- decides whether laws follow the guidelines of the Constitution
- decides what laws mean
- decides whether laws have been followed